

B² -- 9 (Twice Amended). Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the reciprocating means comprises one or more upstanding lines connected to the upper and lower guideways.--

B³ -- 11 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the reciprocating means is connected to the upper and lower guideways means through a slide.--

-- 13 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the upper and lower guideways or the reciprocating means are made of a low friction material.--

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B⁴ -- 14 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 13 wherein the upper and lower guideways or the reciprocating means are made of plastics covered cord or wire.

-- 15 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the upper and lower guideways and the reciprocating means are made from the same material.--

-- 16 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the upper and lower guideways are made of a substantially rigid material.--

-- 17 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 16 wherein the upper or lower guideway comprises a plastics track which is capable of receiving a runner to which the reciprocating means is connected.--

-- 18 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the ball can be connected at any point along the reciprocating means.--

B⁴ -- 19 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the ball is one of a tennis ball, a baseball, a rounders ball, a cricket ball, a hockey ball, and a golf ball.--

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C4 -- 22 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the upper or lower guideway comprises a string or rope stretched between two spaced supports.--

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B -- 23 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the upper or lower guideway or upstanding lines are coated with or formed from a material being of relatively low friction properties.--

-- 24 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the upper or lower guideway or upstanding lines are coated with or formed from a plastics material.--

-- 25 (Once Amended). Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the upstanding lines are connected to the upper or lower guideway by a slide.--

In the Specification

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Please add the following Abstract of the Invention after the claims:

--ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

B⁴ An apparatus for use in playing and practicing ball games is disclosed, the apparatus including a ball suspended by a substantially inelastic upstanding line from an upper, generally horizontal or inclined elongated guideway and connected by the same or a second substantially inelastic upstanding line to a lower, generally horizontal or inclined elongated guideway. The